

~~INSTRUCTIONS~~ COIN CORRESPONDENCE



# BOWERS AND RUDDY GALLERIES, INC.

SUITE 810

6922 HOLLYWOOD BOULEVARD

HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90028

TELEPHONE:

(213) 466-4595



DIRECTORS:

JAMES F. RUDDY

NANCY RUDDY

Q. DAVID BOWERS

May 30, 1972

Mr. Bernard Edison  
30 Southmoor  
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Mr. Edison:

It was nice talking with you on the telephone the other day. The coins were received in good order shortly thereafter.

All three pieces present problems grading-wise due to peculiarities of striking. The 1795 half cent of the variety sent to you characteristically occurs with the words "HALF CENT" weak. This would be the case of even an Uncirculated example, if such could be found. The reason for this weakness is that the head on the opposite side of the coin is in exceedingly high relief - and there simply was not enough metal in the planchet to sufficiently fill the highest points of the head and also of the wording. So, weakness occurred. The "Photograde" book does mention that peculiarities of striking occur from time to time, particularly among early pieces. It was not until steam operated presses were introduced in 1836 that coinage became a rather uniform matter. Many earlier pieces vary widely. As another example, not exactly germane to the pieces returned, I might mention that Uncirculated silver coins - particularly of the years 1805 through 1807 inclusive - are invariably found weak around the outer borders. This is true even of Uncirculated pieces. Dave Bowers mentioned that he discussed this with you at the ANA Convention in St. Louis two years ago. I mention this just to point out that the same situation has occurred with other early issues as well.

On the large cent the weakness at the top reverse of the coin is due to the absence of a high protective rim at that point. There is a high rim around the other parts of the coin - and in these areas the lettering is sharp.

The 1797 cent is another example of characteristic weak striking. The areas that appear weak - part of the word "UNITED" and part of the center, for example, are apt to occur that way even on top grade specimens.



Bernard Edison

- 2 -

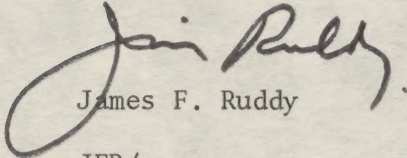
May 30, 1972

I hope that these comments have serve to clarify the situation.

Thank you for your past business and interest. I look forward to being of service to you the next time we have something you can use.

With best wishes I remain,

Sincerely yours,



James F. Ruddy

JFR/nm

Dear Jett;  
If you have  
any of these  
Please save  
for me -

Am taking a  
month off to  
go "inspect  
my property"  
in Palma

1808/7 Not in G. E-53

C-1 3 known

---

1809 Not in G. E-58

C-1 R<sup>2</sup>

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1811 Want (2) Star-  
brk; ~~have~~ (4) Star-  
brk,

---

1825 C-1 E-2

R<sub>4</sub>

---

1826 Want G-2

2 Star brk

Want list 9/22

leaving for NY 9/28

MAjorca, Oct. 1 / Back  
11/10



Also to see  
Ray (son) &  
Panchita, <sup>his</sup> wife  
& Clemency, Grand-  
daughter -

Have bought 8000  
Apt. in Hacienda  
I and am  
buying \$12,000  
(\$517) Apt. in  
Hacienda II  
description enclosed

1797 Have C-1, G-1 on  
plain planchet: want  
on 2, A + L planchet  
with die brs - obv.

C-3 = G-2 with  
gripped edge

Have G-1 + G-2

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1802 / 1850 Rev, + 1796

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1803 C-2, G-4

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1804 C-2 ONLY 2 known  
Not in G, or Empire.

C-3 only one known  
Discovered by W. Brown

C-4, G-10 R6

C-7, G9 R6

C-12, G3 R<sup>2</sup> (??)

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1806 C-3 = E-1 obv.  
G-2 Rev. R7

Borrowed \$8000 00 at  
Lawson Bank last  
Feb @ 7% - will  
pay off \$800 12/15 =  
\$7200. Am paying

Cash for lucinda  
\$20,000 invested.

Will eat interest 12%  
June 1<sup>st</sup> 1973 + Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>

1973 pay off loan  
at Lawson Bank  
(3 years). of approx. \$900  
interest rec'd this  
year. Will deduct  
\$860 for inspection trip.



Half Cents 1794

E-13a

C-1b (not in Gilbert) = G-9  
with small edge lettering  
R<sup>7</sup>

C-2b = G-5 with large E.L.  
R<sup>7</sup>

C-3, G-7; C-5, G-8  
R<sup>6</sup> R<sup>5</sup>

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C-6, G-6 C-7, G-7  
R<sup>6</sup> R<sup>6</sup>

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C-8, G-3 R<sup>6</sup>

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1795

C-2a G-3 R<sup>3</sup>

C-2b G-8 R<sup>7</sup>

C-3 G-7 R<sup>6</sup>

C-5b G-6 R<sup>5</sup> R<sup>7</sup>

C-6b = G-5 on Thick planchet

May 31

Dear Mr. Lutz-Lorst:

Thank you so much for your good letter. You are exactly right about the edge error. Cohen sent me a copy of the device. I must get Foxay's book. They must have worked 12 hrs a day back then for one man to do \$10,000 cent-edges. When I first went to work the summer of 1926, in the Blount Mill, we worked 60 hrs a week; so I guess maybe 72 hours was normal in 1894.

As for grading Dr. Sheldon has it down to a real 3-step scientific, precision analysis:

- 1- Sharpness (without a glass) Ob - Rev.
- 2- Color (Varies with different grades - O & R)
- 3- Surface (with a glass)

- a. Planchet defects do not count one way or other.
- b. ANY improvement other than removing dirt, grime, almost eliminates the coin because in effect it has no color and/or surface.
- c. 40<sup>or 15 or 55</sup> Sharpness will be promoted to 45<sup>or 20 or 60</sup> for superior color or surface, or demoted same.
- d. Rim nicks deduct 2 to 5 pts.

He can grade a coin accurately in 15-20 seconds, with most of it taken with the glass. I particularly wanted to know the difference between 30-35-45-50. He quickly lied up to 60 going 25 to 55 and did not even have to explain.



I could see the difference as plain as could be. He averages the Obv-Rev. EF40/F15 sharpness becomes either VF 25 or VF 30 according to color & surface, and a good color might offset a bad surface so that once in a while (but seldom) he gets a coin 27½ pts. or 57½ pts. Color: 65 past mint red or beautiful Tan Super, 50 light brown or tan to F12 very dark brown. Surface includes nicks & scratches.

The above is what he taught me at 15 minute intervals during a day and a half in his apt. If you look at a coin with the 3-dimensions, it becomes much easier to make a firm decision.

Hope you had a good trip and that if not successful, you had a good time.

Sincerely

Ray Chapman

PS One remarkable revelation to me was the look of the Lair on 1793 Chain MS70. It is no wonder that ~~neither~~ <sup>all</sup> Dealers or Collectors fail to grade this date correctly. They do not know what the Lair looks like, having never seen it. WTS for the ONLY MS70 Chain. It is an S-4. I said you are kidding me - this is an electrotype! Stupid

12-24-72

RAYMOND CHATHAM, LAWSON, MO. 64062 TEL. 816-296-3548

Dear Sam:

It was a good Christmas present to get one of your delightful letters on the Eve.

All I've read in the last Penny Wise is my Adv. However, I have the issue in my valise and will read all of it on way to NY for the annual EAC Meeting. Am going to room with Roger Cohen at the Americana. Darwin Palmer, Roger and I are planning to meet afternoon of 28<sup>th</sup> at ANS, and stay till closing.

I have two of the 3 coins you want but they may not suit you as neither are full "Goods" by Sheldon old time standards. On the 5-20 the full straight date is unmistakable and same for the date on the small 7. sharp. These are in my collection. I let Darwin have the 5-264 on which I asked for Bids in list before - last. It was here two weeks ago, and topped the highest bid I had with \$11000, same as the coin sold for at auction. I won't sell above 2 until you see them.

Roger & I still have a big Half Cent deal on but may fall through. I bought about 15 of his Plate Coins which are much better than pictures -



Yes, the 3 1795's are way and by far the commonest Liberty Cap Cents in Mint State. I think Mrs. Borel has sold her 766 but if you want the 5-75 or 78 get hold of a nice clean VF30 which she will accept as a trade. That's what I've been trying to do for last two months. I sent her 22 beautiful VFs-EFs but got only 12 of hers. She is sort of choosy but takes a liking to a F15 coin and turns down another VF35. I had only 21 coins to send but included a VG10 S-2, writing that it most certainly was not good enough, but I got her AU worth \$4-5,000<sup>00</sup>. She said I want a better one but I'll keep this "nice little coin" till you get a better one. That's about it - I have to find 20 nice coins to get 10.

That's a subtle quote at the last. A band like me would say that currency too

passes at virtue all over the world. Ibig is swarming with tourists all on acct. of the Drivings. Son, Ray, was there 2 wks ago and reports business Thriving! Happy New Year! Ray

JUNE 72

Dear Lett.: I just came back from  
Jefferson City - missed winning  
my division by 3 strokes.

Thank you so much for all the  
interesting information and the  
time it took to get it. I really  
misunderstood Cohen who must  
have told me that the cent should  
weigh no more than 84 gr.

Which of course makes mine much  
too heavy at 91. On the other coin  
the clashed dies are most interesting.  
I have not had time to get acquainted  
with my half cents. And same thing now:  
am leaving here in AM at 5:15. Will  
be in Winston-Salem, N.C. at 10  
Central time tomorrow. Therefore I  
cannot get to the Bank. Expect to  
be back June 20<sup>th</sup> and will ship  
you the 1794 C-9 at that time. I  
got a nice 1835 C-2 from <sup>Old Blend</sup> ~~translators~~  
Prater 60/65 c<sup>th</sup> 5000.



My duplicate 1832 C-1 is not unc  
but All I cost 3.00 from House  
of Stuart. I'll send if you want to  
look at it. I have 3, one EF @ 24.00;  
1 kept duplicates because R<sup>3</sup> scarcest.  
The C-9, 1794 is only Fine.

Thanks so much for sending  
the Ads, too. I will take them with  
me to N.C.

Have all this week's correspondence  
to catch up, before I can pack.  
No more Large Cent lists till  
ANA convention. I'll be much  
less busy when I return for  
all of July. Will be working on  
First Home Investment again  
which has another stock split  
in Sept.

Will write as soon as I  
return from ROARING GAP, N.C. 28668  
Ray -

Canada Goose





Of the two Large Cents below one is undoubtedly R7 for its collectable condition and the second one R8, only 3 known collectable Liberty Caps near Mint State.

- 1793 S-8 The Dr. Hall, Brand cent referred to, Penny Whimsy, as second finest of the variety, excelled only by the Crosby-Hall-Frence. Present Book value, from the new recommended basals to be published in this month issue of Penny Wise, \$6,300, priced at \$ 6,500
- S-13 From Dr. French, Lot 15, TJ Clark, JH Payne, Dr. WHS in 1954 From envelope written long ago "probably the sharpest of the 3 Liberty Caps near mint State. If MS60 this coin has the highest Book Value of any American cent. The Charles Jay coin which brought over \$10,000 in 1968 and which is about the same condition as this one, has the top Book Value, being \$14 There is just one more comparable and most know where it is. (as far as Collectors are concerned I do not count the ANS pcs) Book value on this incredibly beautiful cent is \$12,375 and it is offered at the conservative price of 10,000
- 1796 S-94 F12, 6th in PW 200
- S-114 The PLATE COIN in Early American Cents, Original Gilbert piece, Hines, WHS, with the RARE obv, brk. 250
- 1798 S-159 Abt VF, a well preserved cent and close to CC 85
- 1800 S-203 Abt EF, the Third Finest, VF35 in PW 200
- S-204 VF+ and CC 250
- S-204 New since PW, envelope says "VF20 per CDS" 150
- S-205 AU50 150
- S-206 EF40 150
- S-208 VF20, tied for 3rd, 4th, and 5th PW 125
- Another almost equal above, both say "Early stage" but the obv. brk on this one is heavier and could have caused a little weaker strike 115
- S-209 EF45, 3rd finest known and a beautiful cent 350
- S-212 Almost EF, one of the Brand cents, and 6th in CC 150
- Another strong VF with one longish shallow dent at curls, F15 50
- 1802 S-226 EF45, this coin looks AU to me; perfect surface with the rev. mirror like (actually hate to part with the next 4) 200
- S-227 AU50, this one beautiful light brn slightly mottled and looks uncirculated to me 250
- S-236 AU45/50, spots of mint lustre and a gorgeous cent 200
- S-237 AU50 and lots of lustre, ditto as 227 250
- I don't understand exactly why but have heard Dr. Sheldon grades the 1802's more severely than any other date. I believe most collectors would grade the above cents higher
- 1803 S-247 AU50 and another mirror surface, quote "probably a first strike and possibly a presentation piece" 3rd Finest 350
- S-253 AU50 From the McAllester collection, lgt brn to tan but with many minute nics or hairline scratches not visible without a glass, else it would be priced as above 250
- S-255 Quote on envelope "called a CLASSIC 55 by WHS" faded mint color and a really top-notch Large Cent 350
- 1803 NC-1 This cent brought \$500 in 1965 because of its beautiful surface The surface turned out to be brown wax filling tiny corrosion pits when the cent was washed. Even after the beautiful surface disappeared, the cent was sharp enough to be graded "3rd finest seen" and grades have run from F-VF all the way down to Abt F12 from those who have seen. It is here at a 50% loss, offered for 250

Good luck to all, Ray.

Dear Felt: I got a phone call Sunday  
from Gordon Wrenne - that he'd  
sold me a 76a, 1795 LE and found  
out it was S-74 and to send it  
back. Robbie Brown & I got an S-6  
mixed up with an S-8 and shortly  
posited for no replacement now  
for the S-8 offered.

Funny - all this coming  
right after the 169-174 box  
(whatever). I have not yet had a  
chance to look up and down  
on both ~~side~~ <sup>of the box</sup> ends of the 169  
to see if I can find a suspected  
169, but am certainly going to  
do so - there's NO WAY to attribute  
the spine out of 1 of date other than  
174 - Ray -



May 72

Ray Chatham  
Lawson, Mo. 64062

Dear Mr. Tettenhorst:

Nothing quite so nice has happened to me in years. What a simply delightful surprise and I had neither variety.

In addition you did me a big favor by selecting May 19th, which IS my brother's birthday. Dick & Edie always do remember mine (I think she keeps a book on both her family and Dick's, about 50 to 60 people), and although I had remembered last week, I forgot Friday because of so much mail. I phoned Southern Pines Saturday AM and saved the situation because of you.

Last week I came to St. Louis to attend the annual golf outing of the St. Louis Textile Club, for the first time in three years. All my blanket customers during the 60's belonged and I played golf with them for 5 or 6 years before 1968. I had a delightful time there, too. Tried to phone you but found your number unlisted as so many are today. I still know only the business phone of my best customer for Large Cents. Even though I was in his home last week-end in Louisville, I did not look at the phone number because I took it for granted he would either give it to me or he simply did not want to be bothered at home. I had Wednesday AM to myself while my two friends from Kansas City went out to look at the huge new plant of Maritz on 66 SW. I took the car and went over to Martin's Watson Rd branch. Ordered an electro of 1793 which I assumed would cost abot \$25 to \$40 in line with electro's of Large Cents. The price was \$250 and just a small amount less than I paid for an original of the same variety in almost as good grade. The electro had a bad dent in the obverse field. Maybe I will have time to write you and we can get together for lunch or something on my next trip.

The old phrase, "It's a great pleasure to do business with you" was never written with more sincerity. Enclosed is a cry for help from a real pro like you.

Yours truly,

Ray Chatham

PS

I sent the thin planchet 1795 to Cohen but he says it weighs about 5 g too much. I found it 4 g heavier than the Brobston and 16 g lighter than another thick planchet 1795, about 80+ with the other weighing 106. Hope you don't mind mailing back. I also have a Large Cent 1813 which I think may have been struck on a Half Cent planchet. Would you like to see it? I can't think of any other planchet except a very thin 1795 LC, which could possibly have happened 18 years late.



# Cohen #'s Lacking

(1743) C-3 + 4

(Has duplicate C-2 for trade)

(1794) C-1b, 2a + b, C-3, 5, 6, 7, 8.

(C-1a enclosed; edge error)

Has Dup. C-9 for trade.

(1795) C<sup>2</sup> 2a + b, 3, 4, 5b

1796 - Lacking

(1797) C 3a + 3c (also 3b)

(1802) C-1 (Has dup. C-2 for trade)

(1803) C-1, 2 (Has both "uses" 3-4)

(1804) C-2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12

(Don't seem to have ANY  
Nice 1804's)

(1806) C-1, 2, 3 (ditto)

(1808) C-1 (4 uses now?)

(1809) C-1

1811 - Lacking

(1825) C-1

(1826) C-2

1831 - Lacking

(1832) - C 3

This is strong as I have

Three C-1's, might trying

to get C-3 (2 of these R<sup>2</sup> Trade) Need

# Lacking

1835 C-2 ✓

1851 (can't understand why?)

END

Has nice AU-1850 Trade

" MSLS - 1854 "

" nice EP - 1855 "

" " EF - 1856 "

Check enclosed for return  
postage & registry for the  
two Half Cents

It is hard for me to find  
Half Cents! so find almost  
none much interest in  
them. Can you recommend  
a dealer or two I could  
write and get on  
mailing list?

RAY CHATHAM

LAWSON, Mo. 64062

I have written just now for some of these mailers.  
I hope Mumus-mailer is still in business. They are tops!

Ray Chatham      Lawson, Mo. 64062

There is in my collection  
 Adv. in Penny Wise, Nov. 15th. PLEASE, for me, state which you are  
 sendi... order from: Private mailing or AD and Thanks!



Tell, you that me to two of Roger's Half Cents  
I got list late in Mallorca.

Just got back and am snowed under  
with mail but ignored it to get  
this list out —

Hurriedly  
Ray —

Expected to have several MS 1802's & 3's from Mrs Rosahall at EAC in N.Y.

RAYMOND CHATHAM, LAWSON, MO. 64062 TEL. 816-296-3548

Gentlemen: I realize this is a bad time to send out a list, but there are extenuating circumstances. Maybe you will buy yourselves a present.

The list is now going to some beginning collectors who may want some low priced coins to study. The first six are fillers but the cents beginning with S-208, priced under \$100, are an exceptionally nice group. I do not expect any returns. Due to the high cost of mailing, any approvals will cost \$2 per package if returned. A check sent in advance and the coin returned because unsatisfactory, is not an "approval". I will be leaving on Dec. 28th for a month, which leaves only 10 days for orders. I hope to see you in New York, Dec. 29th. I think I will be at the Americana.

1793	S-1	Everything shows, just pitted all over	\$110	
	S-4	G-VG but tapped lightly on edge with a hatchet 1/16 in. deep	195	4? = 220
	S-6	Basal state and scratched	65	35
	S-8	G5 and an acceptable cent	200	175
	S-10	VF 3, most everything showing	140	120
	S-11c	Basal state, no rim dents, edge legend and leaf sharp	55	35
	S-13	Like S-1 above except black. Paid \$200	175	
	S-13	VG/G Nice planchet and not a filler	375	480
	S-13	VG10/G6	695	640
	S-13	F15/F12, Rev. F15 with rim dent which does not show on Obv.	1400	960
1794	S-24	Excellent color, surface, sharp eye, full cheek, few rim dents	110	
	S-42	Sharp VF, fine color and surface except for 97 of date, which may be planchet. No corrosion any where else on coin	200	160
	S-60	F12/10, no dents, brown, nice coin	110	77
	S-65	VF reddish brown, Rev. has 3 nics together resembling file	200	90
1795	S-75	VG8, good color	75	64
1796	S-87	F-VF a beautiful cent, recolored (Why???) only	110	105
	S-91	VF sharpness but has some flat rim dents, so F15	110	105
	S-103	From last list. Nobody ordered. It is not overpriced, being the F15 in CC (Figures \$281.25 as 6th) a beautiful cent	275	181
	S-107	Excellent VG10 (I think 12/10), 4th finest reported	395	220 (x 1 1/2?)
	S-106	VF, very slightly porous, no damage whatever	110	15 x 9 = 135
	S-113	MANA, Phila. 10-28-55, either 5th or 6th in PW, (20-15)	450	240
	S-114	VG10/8, 3 small rev rim nics or would be 10/12	100	85
1797	S-131	A beautiful type coin, VF35 and #3 in PW	595	280 (x 2?)
	S-134	VG \$35, F \$67 54 VF	125	112
	S-137	EF, Judge Gaskill, MS65 color	195	120
	S-141	Hines collection at \$250 last list reduced to F15 @	175	97
1798	S-151	F15 and a beautiful clean overdate, also reduced from \$135	110	82
	S-159	VF25 at least, this coin reduces price of one in last list (an expert grades 10 points better, for those who saw other)	125	75
	S-167	Very close to CC, cracks sharp, color perfect	100	
	S-173	VF20/15 (if I have to reduce this coin, I buy)	75	40
1799	S-188	G5/3 bottoms of 9's show and this unusual	200	
	S-189	VG8/4	325	
1800	S-204	Hines Collection and aVF	125	
	S-208	F15 and equal to 6th in PW but no longer CC	50	
	S-208	VF and in CC even with reported 25	95	
1801	S-225	\$50, S-226 \$75, S-226 \$45, S-227 (2) @ \$65, S-236 gorgeous	95	
		The above run VF to EF as priced		
	S-240	F \$55, S-238 very scarce in acceptable condition	55	
1	S-254	\$45, S-256 VF \$45, S-256 \$40 (17?), S-257 \$40, S-261 \$60 S-263	40	
	S-244	S-244 EF sharpness and CC, will grade VF25 for roughness	200	
	S-248	Usually seen beat up. Grab this one at	50	
	S-259	F15 and one of only 6 known with brk at TAT, very nice	100	

L-W



RAYMOND CHATHAM, LAWSON, MO. 64062 TEL. 816-296-3548

1803	S-262	Sharpness of VF30 but graded down by Nielsen to F15 (I will bet it is the best of the 15's)	\$100
	S-265	VG/F \$85 (Was \$115 but had to reduce due to) S-265, nice	65
1804	S-266	Broken obv & rev \$150, broken obv. only, also	150
1805	S-268	EF40 prf-lk surface every where except bad triangular spot chin to rim, chin to point of bust, only	50
1806	S-270	F15 with few rough spots	50
1808	S-278	F12/15 \$45, S-279 VF and excellent color	85
1810	S-284	List at \$95 last time. Have to reduce on acct of S-279	85
1811/10	VF	with some rev pits, good color \$100, another sharper but obv dents on cheek \$65, another VG @ \$55, and nice F15 @	100
1812	S-291	EF45, top color but not perfect surface, still CC	200
Late Arrivals : S-110 VF20/15 dark brown, no NDS, tiny bit porous, pretty			125
1795	S-76b	VF20 \$110, S-78 VF, very pretty color, no dents, 2 teeny sc	100
1796	S-104	EF obv, slightly rough, rev. nice VF, popular LIBERTY	150
1797	S-120a	aF \$75, also VF dent on cheek and mid rev. full rims, color	180
	S-120b	Rarely found VF and this is a Beauty	195
1798	S-155	EF sharpness, color off but not badly, lgt & drk brown	225
1800	S-192	Nice clean F15 or maybe better (too low at)	50
1801	S-223	VF15/20, brk at RT, no damage whatever	100
1802	S-227	aEF sharpness, slightly rough surf. veins in all rgt leaves	135
	S-236	EF45, virtuall perfect dies and perfect color, Date coll.	120
1803	S-247	VF25 \$50, S-252 VF35 \$75, S-256 VF20+ \$60 all very nice	
1804	S-266	VF20 and a nice one, brk obv and rev, tiny bit rough but no damage whatever and desired even brown color all over	595
1805	S-267	Almost EF, excellent color and surface, no damage whatever	100
1806	S-270	EF40 and same as above only perfect color	175
1807	S-271	VF with sharp comet & brks (too low at)	75
1809	S-280	VF30 (I haven't seen such clean coins since the 50's	240
1811	S-287	EF, coffee -with-cream brown just perfect	500
1812	S-288	VF25 reddish brown, again NO damage	45
	S-289	VF20 Beautiful	65
1813	S-293	VF25 Dark Choc. \$100 and Last a gorgeous S-292 EF	200

Dear Gert: Some times I write things which don't sound  
like I'd say them. I never even gave those half  
cents a thought. I got the rare dies I needed  
when I wrote Roger from Mallorca, but I could  
not afford that price. Wait a 1796 first.  
Hope you didn't take offense at my kidding  
note on last letter. I love a little fun! Just  
had Robinson Brown call me on the phone about an  
1807 cent I shipped him, marked "See Me".  
He said he definitely needed and was about to make  
a big offer when I told him the coin was com-  
pletely re-engraved. It was beautiful!



9/27/73

Dear Ted,

I have been meaning to write for some time over a few items on Half Cents but today I completed an article for "Benny Wise" which I would like your comments on before I submit it for Publication.

The 1808 cmm#1 is back with Jim McGuigan. He loaned it to me for photography (The picture came out terrible) after much hantle back and forth I just gave up trying to make any type of a deal. No matter what I proposed; Case he didn't want, No coins were good enough for his standards etc etc. He is very Cagy. He even uped the ante to 2500 and he couldn't make up his mind. I think the best course is to do nothing now and just hope he doesn't have a loose moment and trade it off.

I hope you are enjoying "Benny Wise" now. The last two issues have had more on Half Cents than in all the issues before. I am very happy that others are writing, all that it took was for people to realize that Walter Breen didn't have a Patent or Copyright on Half Cent information. I look for a great deal more to come.

On one of the last days of the ANA Convention a 1797 cmm#34 showed up at Penn Valley Coin Shop. The coin is in VF 30-35 condition with considerable large cent undertype visible. I was able to trace it back to EAC Member Willard Blaisdel who had sold it at

the Convention. It passed through at least 2 Hands before Penn Valley got it. I understand they paid \$2,000 for it. I know they are asking \$3,000. At the EAC Meeting I asked Blaisd where he got it. He replied from Tom Elder in 1937.

Another event at the Convention was when W.K. Raymond asked me where all the Ryder Proofs came from that Stacks Had. I told him that a customer of Stacks Purchased the lot from a dealer I knew and disposed of the ones he didn't want to Stacks. I did not mention your Name.

I'll close now and hope you enjoy what I propose to put out via "Penny wise"

Sincerely

Roger

KENNETH M. GOLDMAN

P. O. Box 74

Revere, Mass. 02151



R. Tettenhorst

Box 9252

Richmond Heights, Missouri 63117



KENNETH GOLDMAN

*Numismatist*

P. O. BOX 74

REVERE, MASS. 02151

Nov. 5, 1973

Dear MR. Tettenhorst,

A while ago, you mentioned to me that you needed an 1855 Silver Dollar in Proof.

I now have one on consignment. It is quite nice but has a few very light abrasions on the obverse. The price is \$2,850.00.

If interested, please advise and I will be happy to ship on approval.

I can be reached by phone until Wednesday Nov. 7 at 617-542-0023. I will be at the Grand Central convention from Thursday until Sunday.

Hoping to hear from you and best regards.

Very truly yours,



Kenneth Goldman

KENNETH M. GOLDMAN

P. O. Box 74

Revere, Mass. 02151

Ray A. Hanson  
c s n a - n a s c

G. Jon Hanson  
a n a L. M.  
P. N. E.

Write:

261 El Camino  
Beverly Hills  
California 90212

Phone:

~~Extview~~ 213  
5-2792 EX31200  
6-7297

**R. A. Hanson**  
**Numismatist**  
**Rare Coins**

SPECIALIZING IN  
★ U. S. HALF CENTS  
★ U. S. LARGE CENTS  
BY DIE VARIETIES AND  
DIE STATES FOR  
THE TYPE, DATE  
VARIETY COLLECTORS

DEALERS IN  
EARLY AMERICAN  
COINS, ESPECIALLY  
RARE AND CHOICE  
SPECIMENS, AND  
FINE NUMISMATIC  
LITERATURE, ETC.

Re: RARE COINS

10/17/72

R TETTENHORST

BOX 9252

RICHMOND HEIGHTS, MO 63117

DEAR MR. TETTENHORST OR TO WHOMEVER I'M SPEAKING:

IT WAS NICE MEETING YOU AT THE A.N.A. CONVENTION. I HAVE YOUR  
WANT LIST & YOU SEEMED TO SHOW A GENUINE INTEREST IN CHOICE &  
RARE EARLY AMERICAN COINS IN WHICH I DEAL.

I RECENTLY HAD & SOLD A SUPERB 1793 LIBERTY CAP C/10,  
MINT STATE, AND MIGHT HAVE SOME OTHER ITEMS FOR YOU, HOWEVER, I  
DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DEALING WITH WOULD YOU SEND AVAILABLE ITEMS  
TO AN ALIAS? MY FRIEND AND ASSOCIATE, W. R. RAYMOND, ATTEMPTED TO  
CONTACT YOU WITHOUT SUCCESS REGARDING A FINE 1784 VARIETY COLLECTION  
I HAD IN MY POSSESSION.

ANYWAY, I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR THOUGHTS REGARDING THE  
ABOVE. THANK YOU & HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU SOME TIME.

SINCERELY,

Jon H

**LESTER MERKIN**

65 EAST 56TH STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

PLAZA 3-1130

May 26, 1971

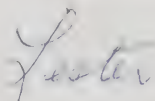
Bernard Edison  
30 Southmoor Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Bunny:

I wrote to the Kagins immediately after returning from St. Louis, and to date, I have not received any kind of reply. Possibly this means that they do not care or won't need to see the coins that they have described so gloriously.

If anything further developes, I will be in touch with you.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lester".

LM/cep



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HOLLINBECK

**COIN COMPANY**



PAUL KAGIN

Suite 400-412  
Royal Union Bldg.  
Des Moines 9, Iowa  
Phone 244-3179  
Area Code 515

November 30, 1971

Mr. R. Tettenhorst  
P.O. Box 9252  
Richmond Hts, MO 63117

'In checking our records, they do not indicate where we have previously been furnished with two commercial references. It is entirely possible that you have sent them in some time ago, and we neglected to mark it on your card. If this is the case, please accept our sincere apologies for this oversight.

If you will furnish us with two commercial or bank references at this time, the items purchased for your account, as per enclosed invoice, will be sent you. If you want us to send the coins immediately, instead of waiting until we check your references, you may enclose a check with your references, and we shall send the coins immediately. Of course, any coins purchased from our auction may be returned for full refund in the event that, in your opinion, they are not as represented.

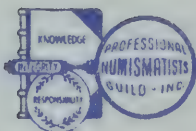
If we can serve you in any way or at any time, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

*Norma Rinks*

Norma Rinks,  
Bookkeeper

*answered  
12-8*



THIS YEAR, AS IN FORMER YEARS -



"AMERICA'S LEADING COIN AUCTIONEERS"

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CORPORATION

*Professional Numismatists*

ABNER KREISBERG

JERRY COHEN

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BEVERLY HILLS, CALIF. 90210

CRESTVIEW 1-4281



April 3 1972

Mr. Bernard Edison  
30 Southmoor  
Clayton, Mo. 63150

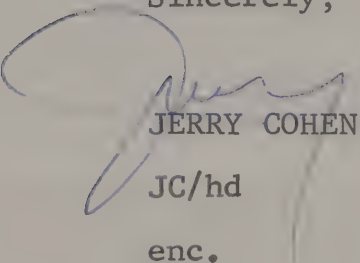
Dear Bunny:

Our sincere thanks for your remittance for the auction lots.

At your earliest convenience I would appreciate if you will note on the enclosed coinform any of your specific wants. I will be at a few conventions in April and I am sure I will find some of the coins you desire.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

  
JERRY COHEN

JC/hd

enc.



WARREN A. LAPP, M.D., F.A.C.S.  
731 EAST 22ND STREET  
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11210

October 15, 1972

R. Tetterton:

thanks very much for your letter and your sonnet. Since your explanation was so beautifully done too, I have included it as an introduction for your poem. The page, as made up for P-W Nov. 15, is enclosed in a copy. (My photocopy machine has been out of order for two months now, so I have had to resort to carbons.)

Your comments about poetry being included in P-W is not quite right. I tried to find the reference for you but was unable to do so through the index at the end of each year. One poem

WARREN A. LAPP, M.D., F.A.C.S.

731 EAST 22ND STREET

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11210

- a 4 line affair - appeared in the March 15, 1971 issue - this was written by Theodore Venn of Chicago and was originally published in The Numismatist in 1926. Two sonnets were previously reprinted from Mason's Coin Collector Magazine published in the 1880's. The sonnets had been written by a sailor, as recall, and like your sonnet, both of his were in reference to Miss Liberty.

Thanks very much for your letter and your literary effort! It was much appreciated and enjoyed, and will become an interesting item for the next issue of P-W, I'm sure.

Kindest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Warren A Lapp

# MEMO

from

Anthony Swiatek

House of Gems  
P.O. Box 83  
Bklyn., N.Y. 11222  
212-389-0043

325

TO Mr. R. Tetterhorst DATE 8/27/71

Dear Mr. Tetterhorst,

I received your check in today's mail (8/27).

For a comparison to the Gem Lafayette dollar enclosed, I am also enclosing an original toned Laf. dollar - which I would like returned. Why? Simply because I want you to compare for yourself the deepness of strike (on the reverse) of the horse, Gen. Laf., the picket and the horse's equipment. Also, note the detail in the leaves on the branch below the horse. On the obverse, please note the deep definition in Washington's hair and the tip of the hair (a tail) below the ribbon in Washington's hair.

Look at the edges or receding on the poorer struck Lafayette and you will see for yourself

☐ REPLY ☐ INITIAL AND RETURN ☐ SEE ME



# MEMO

from

Anthony Swiatek

(2)

TO \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

that it is a BU piece.

Please remember that all 36,000 pieces of the 1/2 D. were "HAND STRUCK" in twenty-four hours. Because of this, the striking of each piece varied - but generally, most reverse strikes show weak detail as you have seen in the comparison piece. It is rare when a true BU coin is located, let alone a Ch. BU or a Gem BU coin with such a deep strike!

You can note the deepness of strike of your gem piece also by the full roundness of the horse's belly.

Also, as I mentioned to you before, no care or almost no care was given to these pieces. There were no coin holders available in those days and the entire issue - except for a small percentage - were kept in "top draws, etc and were abused. This piece originally purchased from B. Max Mehl was described in his 1947 catalog as "the best specimen that I have seen in almost twenty-three years." I hope you like the coin. Please return the other by insured mail.

Thank you and most sincerely,

☐ REPLY ☐ INITIAL AND RETURN ☐ SEE ME

Anthony Swiatek

P.S. The piece is as proof like as I have ever seen!

## A CENT SONNET

R.Tettenhorst

Having enjoyed PENNY-WISE for some time now, and having contributed nothing to its pages, I feel myself much in the Editor's debt. Unfortunately, my own poor store of knowledge would make any attempt to add to the readers' numismatic education presumptuous in the extreme. However, I did have the serendipity to come into possession recently of an oddity in the way of numismatic literature, namely a cent sonnet. Not having noticed any poetry in your pages, I thought that it might offer EAC members some momentary diversion from their more intensive studies.

A word about the sonnet's origin may be of interest. A lady friend had, on a number of occasions, complained mildly about the amount of time that I spent on my large cents and half cents. Perhaps she felt that she was being neglected somewhat more than she should have been. (The young lady, being a quite choice specimen although by strict standards fitting Dr. Sheldon's description of AU50 quite well (see PENNY WHIMSY, page 41), felt entitled to more attention than the coins were receiving. Have other EAC members encountered this syndrome?) On waking one morning, the young lady found the sonnet, written in a spidery, somewhat old-fashioned hand on the back cover of an issue of P-W, tucked between her hair and the pillow.

Although the exact author cannot be determined, it is obvious that the poem had been written by one of my old coppers. Personally, I suspect a rather well-rounded S-128 who had always seemed to me to possess an intelligent expression and a rather saucy twinkle in her eye, not to mention a smile which seems to bespeak a high opinion of herself. These qualities would appear to be present in the poem's author. However, enough speculation from me. Here is the poem:

### TO A LIVING LADY

My dear, I've seen your frown as you complain  
About the time he spends caressing me  
And all my copper sisters. Since you're vain  
It wounds your ever present vanity

To share his hours with us. You think your flesh  
Superior to metal maidens. True,  
It's soft and much admired now, and fresh,  
And you are sweetly shaped. But they are few

Whose passion you've aroused. A hundred men  
Have bid for me, and lusted for the thrill  
Of having me, and more have sighed and then  
Been satisfied to look. The men will still

Adore my hair, my lips, my cheeks, my bust,  
When all the features you so prize are dust.

- Author Unknown.

\* \* \* \* \*





From the desk of

JOHN WRIGHT

Date 3 Aug 72

Dear Telt

#144 was indeed your correct number, but we did not get token #144 with the treasurer stuff — probably just another example of the complete lack of financial organization the last few years.

The nearest number to your #144 is #152, which I've assigned to you — enclosed. Ken Bressett was #152, but he sent me a letter saying he specifically did NOT want his token.

Thank you for  
your patience,  
